

Backgrounder

New England's Best Workplaces for CommutersSM Coalition

New England's Best Workplaces for CommutersSM Coalition is composed of leading New England government and business organizations working to reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality, cut global warming emissions, and make commuting less stressful and costly. Members are listed below.

Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT), Patriot Chapter

The Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) is an international coalition of private and public members committed to enhancing mobility, improving congestion and air quality, and conserving energy through Transportation Demand Management (TDM). ACT's Patriot Chapter serves New England and has more than 50 members. The chapter hosts an annual awards luncheon to recognize organizations and programs that further TDM. <tmi.cob.fsu.edu/act>

CARAVAN for Commuters

CARAVAN for Commuters, Inc., is Massachusetts' statewide commuter services resource, working to reduce roadway congestion, conserve energy, and improve air quality by providing information and assistance on shared-ride transportation alternatives to the commuting public and to the business community. All of CARAVAN's services are funded by the Massachusetts Highway Department and are offered free of charge to Massachusetts companies and commuters. <www.commute.com>

Employment Management Society

The Employment Management Society is a non-profit organization of human resources (HR) professionals in the Northeast, dedicated to providing employment managers networking, educational, and development opportunities on the regional and local level, while maintaining a common bond with the global employment community. The Society offers networking and training for HR professionals throughout the year. <www.employmentmanagement.org>

Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Boston Chamber represents 1,800 businesses from virtually every industry and profession in New England. The Chamber works with private and public groups to promote Greater Boston as one of the world's great metropolitan regions. In addition to supporting policies to promote economic growth and job creation, the Chamber hosts numerous events to help members develop strategic relationships, learn about critical business issues, and expand their marketing opportunities. <www.bostonchamber.com>

Grow Smart Rhode Island

Grow Smart Rhode Island is a non-profit, community-based group striving to protect and improve Rhode Island's quality of life, economic vitality, environmental health, and physical character. The group focuses on promoting responsible growth in urban and town centers, conserving open land, and preserving rural character. Grow Smart Rhode Island's work is divided into four areas: policy analysis and advocacy; public education and technical assistance; "watchdogging" public projects; and building government's capacity to grow smartly. <www.growsmartri.com>

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Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority • Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
New England Council • Northeast Business Environmental Network
Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency





Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA)—known as the “T”—is the nation’s oldest and fourth largest transportation system. MBTA provides safe, reliable world-class transportation in an environmentally sound and responsible manner. Each day, 1.2 million customers ride the T’s buses and trains and help reduce automobile emissions’ harmful effects on human health and the environment by not driving their cars. <www.mbta.com>

New England Council

The New England Council is an alliance of businesses, academic and health institutions, and public and private organizations, formed to promote New England’s economic growth and high quality of life. The country’s oldest regional business organization, the Council articulates its membership’s voice regionally and nationally on key regional issues. The New England Council hosts educational programs and forums for public and private sector leaders across the region and in Washington, DC. <www.newenglandcouncil.com>

Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

The mission of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) is to preserve, protect, enhance, and restore the natural resources of the Commonwealth. Through its efforts, EOEA hopes to improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion, making Massachusetts a better place for commuters to live. <www.state.ma.us/envir>

Northeast Business Environmental Network

The Northeast Business Environmental Network (NBEN) is dedicated to the principle that business practices can be environmentally and economically productive. NBEN’s members are at the intersection of business and environmental concerns: companies that potentially affect the environment; government agencies; service companies; consulting firms; and environmental advocates. NBEN provides a uniquely cooperative forum for its members as they seek practical solutions that benefit business and the environment. <www.nben.org>

Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management

The Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM) is an interstate association of air quality control divisions of the eight Northeast states. NESCAUM’s purpose is to exchange technical information and to promote cooperation and coordination of technical and policy issues regarding air quality control in the Northeast. NESCAUM sponsors training programs, participates in national debates, and promotes research efforts. <www.nescaum.org>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Through the Best Workplaces for CommutersSM, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recognizes employers nationwide that offer outstanding commuter benefits. Participating organizations achieve a *National Standard of Excellence*, as defined by program criteria, that includes offering employees commuter benefits such as transit passes, vanpool subsidies, carpool matching, bike lockers, or compressed work schedules. Supporters of the Best Workplaces for CommutersSM are working together with EPA to promote commuter benefits. <www.bestworkplacesforcommuters.gov> or <www.bwc.gov>

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